Amendments to the Specification

The title has been amended as follows:

ILLUMINATION SYSTEM WITH SPATIALLY CONTROLLABLE PARTIAL COHERENCE ~~COMPENSATING~~ COMPENSATION FOR LINE WIDTH VARIANCES IN A PHOTOLITHOGRAPHIC SYSTEM

Paragraphs [0001] and [0043] have been amended as follows:

[0001] This application is a continuation of U.S. Ser. No. 09/599,383, filed June 22, 2000 (~~expected to issue September 30, 2003 as~~ now U.S. Pat. 6,628,370), which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Pat. No. 6,259,513, filed February 11, 1997, which claims the benefit of U.S. Prov. No. 60/031,725, filed November 25, 1996, which are all incorporated by reference herein in their entireties.

[0043] The preferred embodiment of the present invention utilizes a diffractive optical element. The diffractive optical element may deliver any type of illumination distribution, such as those illustrated in Figs. 9A-D. These diffractive optical elements are utilized to spatially control the cone of illumination or electromagnetic radiation illuminating a reticle. These diffractive optical elements are easily modified, while being made, to deliver a position dependent value of the partial coherence or fill geometry of what illumination type is in use. In another embodiment, optical element 14 is a refractive optic.